

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN/JBKUBISCH

08/24/73 23542

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 169709

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, EIND, CI

SUBJ: PDC STATEMENT ON BILATERAL TALKS

REF: (A) SANTIAGO 3785; (B) STATE 166825

FOR AMBASSADOR DAVIS FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH

1. WE APPRECIATE DESIRABILITY OF HEADING OFF INFLATED OR MISLEADING PUBLICITY ABOUT THE TALKS AND AGREE WITH THE WAY YOU HANDLED YOUR CONVERSATION WITH CUBILLOS. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT POSSIBILITY FOR SUCCESS IN FUTURE EFFORTS OF THIS KIND MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO GO VERY MUCH BEYOND GUIDELINE INDICATED IN REF B. HOWEVER, IT SEEMS TO US HIGHLY IMPORTANT THAT WE FULFILL OUR AGREEMENT WITH GOC TO KEEP DETAILS OF THE TALKS CONFIDENTIAL -- BARRING OF COURSE SOME INCORRECT OR IMPROPER EXPLOITATION OF THE TALKS BY THE OTHER SIDE. ALSO, WE WISH TO AVOID LEAVING IMPRESSION OTHER THAN OUR CONTINUING DESIRE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH CHILE WITHIN REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME. A NEGATIVE ASSESSMENT ON THAT SCORE NOW WOULD LIKELY REACH GOC IN SHORT ORDER, AROUSING SUSPICIONS OF DEVIIOUSNESS AND LACK OF SERIOUS PURPOSE ON OUR PART. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. PLEASE USE YOUR OWN JUDGMENT IN USING THIS GUIDANCE -- JUDGMENT IN WHICH I HAVE UTTER CONFIDENCE.

3. WE ARE SOMEWHAT PUZZLED BY TIMING AND CIRCUMSTANCES

OF TRONCOSO'S QUOTE REPORT FROM U.S. END QUOTE. HE CALLED AT DEPARTMENT A MONTH AGO (JULY 25) ON HIS WAY BACK TO CHILE. INTER ALIA HE REVEALED THAT QUOTE TASK FORCE END QUOTE UNDER CARLOS FORTIN, WITH UNSPECIFIED ASSISTANCE FROM PDC'S EDMUNDO VARGAS, WAS STUDYING CHILEAN QUOTE OPTIONS END QUOTE. (BONNEFOY SUBSEQUENTLY REFERRED TO QUOTE TASK GROUPS END QUOTE DURING OUR BILATERAL TALKS.) TRONCOSO LEFT IMPRESSION THIS INFO CAME DIRECT FROM SANTIAGO IN ONE OF HIS DAILY TELEPHONE CALLS. (WE HAVE ASSUMED ALL ALONG THAT PDC MONITORS CHILEAN SIDE OF TALKS THROUGH SOURCES IN FON OFF AND ELSEWHERE.) PRESUMABLY, MISSING PIECE FROM TRONCOSO'S POINT OF VIEW WAS USG EXPECTATIONS. HE PERHAPS HOPED FOR ASSURANCE THAT WE DID NOT EXPECT TALKS TO PROGRESS.

4. IN ANY CASE, WE HOPE PDC WILL FIND IT ADVANTAGEOUS TO SELECT OTHER AND MORE REWARDING THEMES FROM AMONG THE MANY AVAILABLE TO THEM FOR POLITICAL EXPLOITATION. IF NOT, THE DIVERGENCE OF THEIR INTERESTS FROM OURS IN THIS INSTANCE MAY HAVE TO BE ACCEPTED. RUSH

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